

God With Us in the Word: New Testament Scripture Resource Sheet for Week 3

This week in our series *God with Us in the Word*, we turn to praying New Testament readings together using the prayer method of *Lectio Divina*. Here's a brief recap of the steps:

1. **Read:** Pick any passage in Scripture. Slowly, thoughtfully, savor the word. Linger whenever a word or phrase touches your heart.
2. **Reflect:** What is God saying to you in this passage? Offering you? Asking you?
3. **Respond:** Respond to God from your heart. Speak to God of your feelings and insights. Offer these to God.
4. **Rest in God:** Sit quietly in God's presence. Rest in God's love.

Week 3: December 16-21, 2019

Monday: 1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2 (2nd Reading, 1st Sunday of Advent)

Brothers and sisters: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen. Finally, brothers and sisters, we earnestly ask and exhort you in the Lord Jesus that, as you received from us how you should conduct yourselves to please God and as you are conducting yourselves you do so even more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

Tuesday: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 (2nd Reading, 2nd Sunday of Advent)

Brothers and sisters: I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Wednesday: Hebrews 10:5-10 (2nd Reading, 3rd Sunday of Advent)

Brothers and sisters: When Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight. Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your

will, O God." First he says, "Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in." These are offered according to the law. Then he says, "Behold, I come to do your will." He takes away the first to establish the second. By this "will," we have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Thursday: Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12 (2nd Reading, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception)

Brothers and sisters: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him. In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved. In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ.

Friday: Hebrews 1:1-6 (2nd Reading, Christmas Day)

Brothers and sisters: In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son, whom he made heir of all things and through whom he created the universe, who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being, and who sustains all things by his mighty word. When he had accomplished purification from sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high, as far superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say: *You are my son; this day I have begotten you?* Or again: *I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me?* And again, when he leads the firstborn into the world, he says: *Let all the angels of God worship him.*

Saturday: Titus 2:11-14 (2nd Reading, Midnight Mass on Christmas)

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good.

Download the steps of *Lectio Divina* in a printable prayer card [here](#).

Read more about *Lectio Divina* in the Advent series,

God With Us in the Word on www.BeckyEldredge.com/category/lectio-divina